Sky Link

Slice of Life Slice of Bliss

Chapter 2

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SKY
LINK

I WONDER WHY WE NEVER NOTICED UNTIL NOW
YEAH,
chirp
chirp
Mornin
MAYBE IT'S DESTINY THAT WE LIVE IN THE SAME APARTMENT HOUSE AND ARE NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBORS.
I'M A BIT SHY SINCE IT'S LIKE WE'RE SEMI-LIVING TOGETHER
ABSOLUTELY NOT
step
step
IF YOU'RE GOING DOWN, COULD YOU TAKE THIS WITH YOU?
I START SECOND PERIOD SO I WANT TO SLEEP A BIT MORE
This
YOU'RE SO COLD
PLEASE DON'T SAY DISTURBING THINGS SO EARLY IN THE MORNING.

step
step
step
THEN AGAIN, THAT'S HIS GOOD POINTS.
chatter
chatter
NOW THEN, TODAY,
WE'LL START ON THE LAST CHAPTER ON ASIAN ECONOMY.
WE'LL COVER KOREA'S RECOVERY WHEN THEY RECEIVED A FLOW DUE TO THE FINANCIAL CRISIS THEY WERE FACING
...

HEY RITSU
WHAT DO YOU THINK HAPPENED TO TAKAGI'S FACE?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
DON'T YOU THINK THERE MIGHT BE A DEEPER MEANING TO IT?
.....
—WHO KNOWS?
WITH THAT PERSONALITY OF HIS, I WOULDN'T FIND IT WEIRD IF SOMEONE JUST PUNCHED HIM
YOU SAY THAT BUT,
MAYBE YOU ACTUALLY DID IT?
.....

Eh?
I was right?
Are you serious?
OF COURSE NOT
WHAT A RELIEF
OH YEAH, I BORROWED THAT DVD YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO SEE YESTERDAY
LET'S WATCH IT AT YOUR HOUSE
MY HOUSE?
IS THAT NOT CONVENIENT FOR YOU?
It's Sci-Fi
Who knew we'd be next-door neighbors?
Yeah
THEN IT'S DECIDED
RITSU'S HOUSE ON SATURDAY EVENING
but
. . .WELL,
I WOULDN'T SAY IT'S INCONVENIENT...
click
click
SHUT

smile
chatter
WELL THAT WILL BE ALL FOR TODAY
NEXT TIME, WE WILL GO OVER THE BOSNIAN WAR AND THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT
ALSO, LUNCH BREAK IS NEXT SO SOMEONE TREAT ME TO LUNCH
THAT'S ALL
HE'S THE SAME AS USUAL
I WONDER IF HE REALLY IS BROKE
.....
CLATTER
LET'S HURRY AND GO, TAKE.
IF WE DON'T GET THERE EARLY, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO EAT QUIETLY.
THAT'S TRUE.
TAKAGI'S NUMBER ONE TARGET IS RITSU.
Let's hurry

HEY, DID YOU SEE HIS INJURY?
I TOTALLY SAW IT
WASN'T THE WOUND WAS PRETTY GAUDY?
LET'S ASK HIM WHAT HAPPENED LATER
HUH?
ISN'T THAT MINAMI TALKING TO TAKAGI?
MINAMI?
YEAH
I HEARD THAT HE COULD'VE WENT TO A BETTER UNIVERSITY BUT CHOSE THIS ONE
RITSU, YOU DIDN'T KNOW?
HE'S QUITE THE HONOR STUDENT APPARENTLY

SERIOUSLY, WHY DID HE CHOOSE TO GO TO OUR UNIVERSITY?
HE'S SMART HE HAS THE LOOKS IT'S NOT FAIR.
flip!
OH-
OKAY!
IT'S REALLY NOT ANY OF OUR BUSI-
LET'S GO.
But there needs to be pudding.
...I HOPE IT'S HAM-BURGER STEAK.
I'm starv-ing!
I WONDER WHAT TODAY'S SPECIAL IS

whooosh
beep
snap
whoosh
JAPAN'S HIGH HUMIDITY MAKES ITS SKY MORE WHITE THAN ANY OTHER COUNTRY'S.
DUE TO THE HUMIDITY, THE SUMMER SKY IS MORE WHITE THAN THE WINTER SKY.

HAVE YOU SEEN IT BEFORE?
A FOREIGN SKY?
NO, I HAVEN'T
WHAT IS THIS, ALL OF A SUDDEN?
WELL,
THEY DO SAY THAT A PERSON WHO HAS DONE WRONG HAS THE PURER HEART
WHAT?
I JUST THOUGHT YOU REALLY LIKE THE SKY

BUT I'M RIGHT ABOUT DOING WRONG
OR ELSE I WOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN THIS INJURY ON MY FACE
SINCE A SHORT WHILE AGO YOU'VE BEEN GOING AHEAD ON THE SUBJECT.
DON'T JUST ASSUME
!
!
YOUR PARENTS WILL BE SAD.
I'M NOT ONE WHO SHOULD BE TALKING
BUT YOU CAN'T KEEP ACTING RASH FOREVER.

MY PARENTS DIVORCED EARLY
AND THEY'RE BOTH LIVING HAPPILY NOW.
EVEN COLLEGE I WAS FORCED TO GO BY MY CONCERNED UNCLE AND AUNT.
THERE'S NO ONE WHO WILL BE SAD FOR ME
!!
WHAT I WAS TRYING TO SAY,
WASN'T THAT
IN THE END
IT'S FOR YOUR OWN SAKE.

I'LL LET YOU BORROW THIS. IT'S MY SINGLE-LENS REFLEX CAMERA.
IT'LL DEFINITELY TAKE BETTER PICTURES THAN THE CAMERA ON YOUR CELL.
!
THERE'S EXPOSURE AND SHUTTER SPEED BUT
YOU PROBABLY WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND SO I'LL PUT IT ON AUTO.
JUST
BE CAREFUL WHEN YOU HANDLE THE LENS
IF IT GOES WELL IT'LL TURN OUT PRETTIER THAN WHAT YOU SEE WITH YOUR EYES.

HERE, TAKE IT
COME ON
IF THE FILM RUNS OUT, BRING IT TO MY PLACE.
SEE YA.
HOW DID YOU ANSW-ER?
ABOUT THAT INJURY?

.....
EVERYONE ASKED ABOUT IT. RIGHT?
I GOT BEATEN UP FIGHTING FOR THE PERSON I LIKE
S'WHAT I SAID

I'LL RESERVE THE DARK-ROOM
!!!
WHAT'S WITH HIM?
THAT GUY
.....

click
I JUST DON'T GET HIM
I...
chatter
chatter

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO WORK OVER-SEAS
PROBABLY TOURISM INDUSTRY
HMM
MY FUTURE GOALS?
NOT PAR-TICULARLY.
HAVE YOU FOUND ANY-THING YOU WANT TO DO, RITSU?
EVEN THE UNIVERSITY, I PICKED IT BECAUSE IT WAS THE SAME AS TAKE.
I LIKE PUDDING RIGHT NOW.
.....
...ISN'T THERE ANY-THING YOU LIKE?

.....
IT'D BE HARD TO MAKE PUDDING A JOB
rattle
REPORT!
I HAVE TO TURN IN A REPORT BY 1 PM I GOTTA GET GOING
'KAY
clink
?
YEAH, IT'S FREE
clatter
YOU'RE RAN RITSUKI-KUN, RIGHT?
IS THIS SEAT FREE?

.....
HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?
YOU'RE CLOSE WITH TAKAGI SENSEI SO I WAS CURIOUS ABOUT YOU...
MY NAME IS MINAMI TOORU
I'M A FIRST YEAR DOING INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, JUST LIKE YOU
I ADMIRE TAKAGI SENSEI SO I DECIDED TO ATTEND THIS UNIVERSITY
HUH
Why that old guy?
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK YOU ONE THING...
HOW CAN I BECOME CLOSE TO TAKAGI SENSEI?

YOU'RE ALWAYS TALKING TO HIM
WHAT?
HUH
BUT TAKAGI SENSEI LIKES YOU
I CAN TELL BY THE WAY HE TALKS TO YOU
I'M SORRY BUT
IF ANYTHING, I FIND HIM ANNOYING
CAN YOU ASK SOMEONE ELSE THAT QUESTION?
I'M ENVIOUS OF YOU

!
TAKAGI SENSEI
Open
WHAT DOES SENSEI DO ON HIS DAY OFF?
ON MY DAYS OFF, I MOSTLY SLEEP.
Really?
YOU'RE NOT OUT HAVING FUN?
I WANT TO HAVE FUN BUT I'M NOT VERY POPULAR
Right?
IF IT'S US WE'D BE FREE ANYTIME
THAT'S TOTALLY A LIE!

I don't seem the type
.....
FOR REAL? YOU DON'T SEEM THE TYPE TO BE WITH ONE PERSON.
Eh?
IS IT THE ONE YOU'RE REALLY AFTER?
Sure
CALL US ANYTIME IF YOU GET REJECTED!
ONLY IF I GET REJECTED
He's so mature!
Right?
step
step
THAT MAKES ME HAPPY
BUT I ALREADY HAVE SOMEONE I WANT TO PLAY WITH
slide
YOU ALREADY RAN OUT OF FILM RITSUKI?
WAIT A SECOND AND I'LL REPLACE IT FOR YOU!

I WANT TO RETURN THIS
I'M HERE TO RETURN THIS CAMERA.
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND THE VALUE OF THIS CAMERA.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO HESITATE IT'S A REGULAR CAMERA
THAT'S NOT IT.
I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO BORROW THIS CAMERA.
THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULD LET SOMEONE WHO WILL PROPERLY USE THIS CAMERA TO BORROW IT

HEY RITSUKI, I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED,
BUT YOU'RE THINKING TOO HARD ABOUT STRANGE THOUGHTS
CLACK
EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT, I LET YOU BORROW IT BECAUSE I WANTED TO
IF YOU UNDERSTAND HURRY UP AND GO
WAIT...
WHAT'S WRONG? I SAID WAIT A MINUTE!
GRIP
PUSH
JUST TAKE IT, PLEASE!
BANG
BUT IT'S TROUBLING TO ME

I told you to handle the lends with care!
Don't treat it so carelessly!
IT CAN BECOME USELESS WITH EVEN THE SLIGHTEST IMPACT!
I
He said all he wanted to say and just left
.....
YOU KNEW THAT I HAD THIS KIND OF PERSONALITY TO BEGIN WITH
IF YOU UNDERSTAND THAT PLEASE DON'T GET CLOSE TO ME.
.....
WHAT'S UP WITH HIM?
dash
HEY!

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THIS SERIOUSLY NEED TO BE SENT IN FOR MAINTENANCE.
AND IT'S A PRECIOUS CAMERA FROM WHEN I WAS STILL A STUDENT TOO
Media Center
I UNDERSTAND WE'LL TAKE CARE OF IT
ALSO, COULD YOU CANCEL MY RESERVATION FOR THE DARKROOM?
YES
TAKAGI SENSEI
IS THAT THE CAMERA THAT YOU USE REGULARLY?

LOOKS LIKE IT'S BEEN THROUGH A LOT...
.....
WELL,
I HAVE BEEN USING IT FOR A LONG TIME
SENSEI
CAN I GO OVER TO YOUR HOUSE NEXT TIME?
I WAS REALLY MOVED BY THE PICTURES YOU TOOK
I'D REALLY LIKE TO SEE MORE OF YOUR PICTURES
MY HOUSE?

EVEN IF YOU COME I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING
I don't have money either
THAT'S OKAY. IT'S ENOUGH THAT I GET TO TALK TO YOU
SORRY FOR THE WAIT
PLEASE THINK ABOUT IT
YEAH, YEAH
A SINGLE-LENS REFLEX CAMERA FOR MAINTENANCE AND CANCELING MONDAY'S RESERVATION ON THE DARKROOM
WILL THAT BE ALL?
This is your information card
Thanks
HEY RITSU, YOU MIGHT NOT BE HUNGRY, BUT
IF YOU DON'T HURRY AND EAT, TAKAGI IS GOING TO EAT IT

?
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF HE'S THERE OR NOT TAKAGI ISN'T GOING TO COME NEAR ME
WHY IS THAT? YOU ARE TAKAGI'S FAVORITE
EXCEPT RECENTLY,
IT LOOKS LIKE MINAMI IS ACTING AS A STOPPER
!
WELL, IF HE ISN'T GOING TO COME
AT LEAST WE CAN EAT IN PEACE
.....

OH YEAH, WE WERE SUPPOSED TO WATCH A DVD TOMORROW EVENING
I'LL CALL YOU BEFORE I HEAD OVER.
KUSHO
!

ARE YOU GOING HOME NOW?
BAN-KUN.
MINAMI?
YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THEM?
THE SKY IS BEAUTIFUL.
THE COLOR IS SIMILAR TO TAKAGI SENSEI'S PHOTOS
TAKAGI'S PHOTOS?
THEY ARE ALL REALLY GOOD PHOTOS.

I.
I LIKE HIM
HE MADE A PROMISE TO LET ME SEE HIS PHOTOS AT HIS HOUSE.

click
clack
YES,
THIS IS TAKAGI
I UNDER-STAND
TRUTH-FULLY I CAN'T MAKE UP MY MIND
ABOUT THAT
WELL, I'M THINKING ABOUT IT
OH, THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP
check
NO, THANK YOU
beep
WHEN I MAKE UP MY MIND I'LL CALL YOU
WELL THEN, SEE YOU
step step
...

HEY, DON'T IGNORE ME
SAY SOME-THING
click
click
click
step
step
OH, RITSUKI. YOU JUST GOT HOME?
WHAT A COINCIDENCE I JUST GOT HERE TOO
.....
HE APPARENTLY CAME TO OUR UNIVERSITY BECAUSE HE ADMIRES YOU.
?
IT LOOKS LIKE MINAMI IS GOING OVER TO YOUR PLACE.
NEXT TIME

HAVING A HONOR STUDENT ATTACHED TO YOU...
AREN'T YOU HAPPY?
I'D...
RATHER HAVE YOU BECOME ATTACHED TO ME.
BUT I DON'T KNOW ANY-THING ABOUT YOU!

THEN I'LL TELL YOU
th ud
STOP
slip
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT RUN YOUR HOUSE IS JUST NEXT DOOR
TSK!

MM...!